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Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

MENDELSSOHN SCHOLARSHIP.—The successful candidate is Master Arthur Seymour Sullivan, a chorister of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal, fourteen years old. There were twenty competitors.

MUSICAL UNION.—The twelfth season, just terminated, has been brilliant. The performances of Madame Clara Schumann were most attractive, and completely filled Willis's large room to the very doors, each time she played. Our readers can better judge of the character of these Chamber Concerts, by the following summary of Music and Musicians, extracted from the last programme. Mr. Ella has reason to feel gratified with the prosperity of his institution, and we congratulate him on his success.

LIST OF COMPOSERS WHOSE MUSIC HAS BEEN PERFORMED.

S. Bach, once; Haydn, three times; Mozart, four; Beethoven, eleven; Hummel, once; Mendelssohn, five; Spohr, once; exclusive of Solos by Schumann, S. Heller, Chopin, Mendelssohn, etc., for the pianoforte.

LIST OF ARTISTS AS THEY SUCCESSIVELY APPEARED.

1st Violins—Sainton, Cooper, Ernst, and Sivori. 2nd Violins—Carodus and Cooper. Violas—Hill and Goffrie. Violoncello—Franchomme, Faque, and Piatti. Double-bass—Seyern and Howell. Flute—Remusat. Oboe—Barret. Clarinet—Lazarus. Bassoon—Baumann. Horn—C. Harper. Pianoforte—Hallé, Mme. Schumann, and Andreoli. Vocalist, Mme. Viardot.

SHIPTON-UNDER-WYCHWOOD (OXON.)—The Church Choral Society established here, has now entered upon the second year of its existence. The first Concert for the season took place August 14th. The performance, which was conducted by Mr. W. M. Bürck, passed off very successfully.

BIRMINGHAM.—The grand Organ built for the New Music Hall, by Messrs. Gray and Davison, was exhibited at their manufactory on the 9th August, by Mr. W. T. Best.

HULL.—Public classes for instruction in vocal and instrumental music, are being established in St. John's School Room.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, HAYMARKET.—Mr. Lumley has announced that the season for 1857 will commence in April next, and will include thirty nights.

MADAME VESTRIS.—This accomplished singer expired at her residence, Grove Lodge, Fulham, on the 8th August, aged-fifty-nine. She made her dramatic debut at the early age of sixteen, in Winter's Opera "Il Ratto di Proserpina," at the then King's Theatre, Haymarket; and pursued a successful career as a popular favorite until within two years of her death.

ROBERT SCHUMANN.—"We have received intelligence from Bonn"—says the *Niederrheinische Musikzeitung* of the 31st July,—that Robert Schumann died calmly on the 29th July, at Emdenich. His friends to-day followed the corpse to the church-yard at Bonn. Although the mournful news naturally shocked us, a mild dissolution of the bonds which still enchained his body to the earth was the sole hope of all those who loved and honoured him, since, unfortunately, there could no longer be any doubt as to the incurable nature of his malady. The flame which burned in his heart for music had consumed his restlessly creative mind. His works are his monument."

MINSTRELSY IN ENGLAND.—"At the coronation of Henry V., which took place in Westminster Hall (1413), we are told by Thomas de Elmham, that the number of harpers was exceedingly great; and that the sweet strings of their harps soothed the souls of the guests by their soft melody. He also speaks of the dulcet sounds of the united music of other instruments, in which no discord interrupted the harmony, as inviting the royal banqueters to the full enjoyment of the festival. Minstrelsy seems

still to have flourished in England, although it had declined so greatly abroad; the Provençals had ceased writing during the preceding century. When Henry was preparing for his great voyage to France in 1415, an express order was given for his minstrels to attend him. Monstrelet speaks of the English camp resounding with the national music the day preceding the battle of Agincourt; but this must have been before the King gave the order for silence, which was afterwards so strictly observed."—From Mr. W. Chappell's work upon *English Minstrelsy*.

GLOUCESTER MUSICAL FESTIVAL.—The 133rd meeting of the Three Choirs will take place on the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th of September. There are thirty-six stewards, a sign of increased confidence, since but very few years ago there was the greatest difficulty in procuring half-a-dozen gentlemen to undertake the responsibility. The principals engaged for the festival are Mesdames Clara Novello, Alboni, Viardot Garcia, and Lockey, Misses Clara Hepworth (a *débutante*, daughter of Mr. Amott, the Cathedral Organist), and Temple; Messrs. Sims Reeves, Lockey, Weiss, Thomas, and Gassier. The band includes Messrs. Sainton, Cooper, Blagrove, Chipp, Dando, Thirlwall, Lovell Phillips, Howell, Pratten, Nicholson, Lazarus, Baumann, Harper, Cioffi, &c., &c., and will, with chorus, number 300. Mr. G. Townshend Smith (Hereford) presides at the organ, Mr. Done (Worcester) at the piano, and Mr. Amott, as usual, is conductor. The able and indefatigable Mr. J. H. Brown is again secretary. The newly-elected Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol preaches the sermon in aid of the charity, on the opening day—Wednesday *Elijah*; Thursday Mozart's *Requiem* and the *Creation* (1st part), and selections from *St. Paul*, *Eli*, &c.; Friday, the *Messiah*. A concert will be given at the Shire Hall every evening except Friday.

MESSRS. BROADWOOD'S Pianoforte Manufactory, in Westminster, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday, the 12th of August. This great factory, now a heap of ruins, stood upon a plot of ground covering nearly three acres. Instruments, in all stages of preparation, to the number of nearly two thousand, occupied different compartments of the buildings. Heaps of costly and rare zebra, rose, and mahogany woods, which had been seasoning for many years, were entirely consumed; together with the machinery, and the tools of the poor workmen—little fortunes in themselves—were involved in the common ruin. The total loss cannot fall short of a hundred thousand pounds.

GLOSSOPDALE.—The members of the Philharmonic Society gave a concert on the 2nd of August, in the Town Hall. The music performed was Mozart's Twelfth Mass, interspersed with a selection from Handel, Haydn, and others. Mr. A. Atkin conducted.

WEM.—The Oswestry Choral Society visited the Wem Literary Institute on the 15th of August, and gave a concert selected from Mozart's Twelfth Mass, and Handel's Oratorios. The proceeds were devoted to the funds of the Institute.

THE LATE FIRE AT MESSRS. BROADWOOD'S.—Notwithstanding the heavy loss sustained by the above firm, in consequence of the late calamitous fire, Mr. H. Broadwood, on Saturday, in sympathising with those employed in his establishment, very liberally presented each of his workmen with a sovereign, and every boy with ten shillings. We are gratified in being enabled to state that a committee has been formed for the purpose of raising a fund to remunerate the workmen for their great losses.

ERRATUM at page 284, line 40,—for Mr. R. Leed, read Mr. R. Seed.